Tourists to 'Escort' Queen in Seaway

First "official" cruise passengers to use the St. Lawrence Seaway this summer will dog the footsteps of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip in the royal yacht Britannia.

The Queen and President Eisenhower officially open the billion-dollar marine highway June 26 at St. Lambert lock near Montreal.

Chicago board of trade and Cleveland chamber of commerce have chartered ships for "dedication cruises" advertised as coinciding with itinerary of the royal yacht.

The first actual seaway cruise will be inaugural trip of 2,000-ton Home Lines ship Stellas Maris, May 9, from Montreal to Rochester, New York. Rates from $165.

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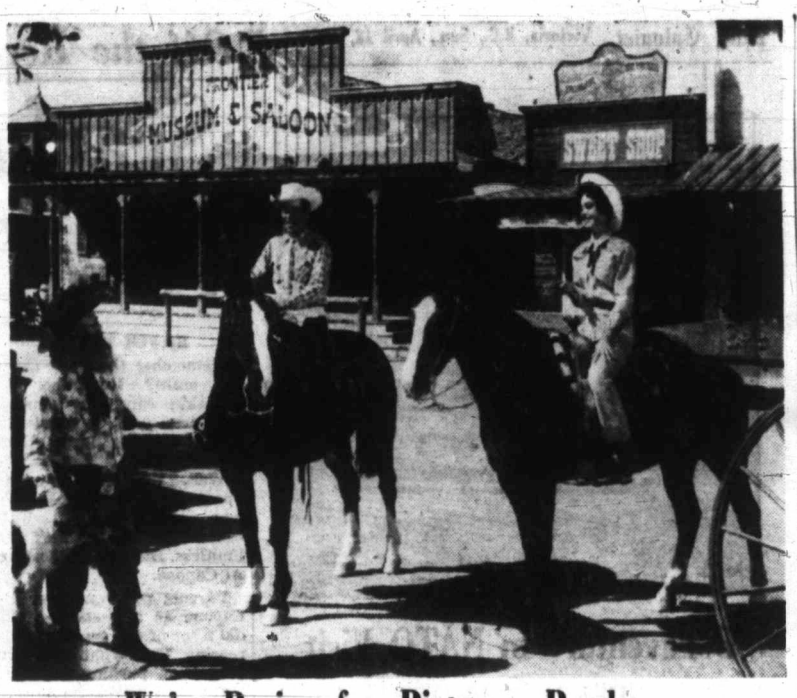

We're Posing for Pictures, Pardner

Camera fans find pictures galore in this recreation of a gold rush town of the old wild west. The Last Frontier Village is easily the most photographed place in Las Vegas. Buildings and curios were collected all over the West.

Choice of Three Ways Of 'Doing' Europe

Tours with Guides ---Or Go It Alone

By SHIRLEY AND BOB SLOANE
Special to The Colonist

If you're going to Europe, as we are soon, you can write or wire for hotel reservations, contact airlines and steamship companies for transportation, pore over reams of literature and brochures to pick out things to do and see or use your head and go to a travel agent.

In case there is anyone who doesn't know it, a travel agent will plan and arrange for every detail of your trip and answer every naive question you can think of at absolutely no cost to you.

THREE WAYS TO GO

You can go three ways: on a group tour, run on a prearranged schedule and frequently built around a common cultural or professional interest; on an independent tour, planned and scheduled for you according to your taste and, if you want to pay for it, may even include someone to take you by the hand from the moment you arrive and hang on to you until you leave (a wonderful service for tyros); or you can just use the agent for your reservations and feel your way when you get over.

MEALS INEXPENSIVE

The average de luxe hotel room rarely costs more than $20 a day for two. And there are many fine cheaper accommodations. A superb meal in all but the most exclusive restaurants may run around $6 a person including wine, which is less than the cost of the wine in New York. Only night clubs are inclined to be out-and-out clip joints, particularly if you gravitate to tourist traps.

YOU'RE A TOURIST

Let's face it: you are a tourist. And you'll be having more fun doing what tourists do than the poor, hard-working people in the places you'll visit who wish they were touring some place.

But that's no licence for you to fit the caricature of the boisterous, ill-dressed outlander "doing" the cathedrals and museums and scorning the "natives."

The true joys of travel come not from showing slides of all the places your camera saw but from absorbing the feeling of the lands and their people. Only by showing respect for and understanding of their institutions and customs in everything from your dress to your manners do you stand a chance of accumulating the real rewards of your trip.

And you can do it even with a camera slung over your shoulder.

HOLIDAYS COMING UP....?

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Wayfarer's Diary

Tears, Silence Sad Prelude To Adventure

By VIVIENNE CHADWICK

Actress Vivienne Chadwick, longtime resident of Victoria is on her way to the Orient on first leg of world tour that will take her to wherever she feels the urge to wander.

A veteran traveller in Britain and Europe, and one-time resident of France, Vivienne will continue to record the chronicle of her journey exclusively for The Daily Colonist.

We are away! A stirring send-off, with the dock and the ship's rails alive with waving figures . . . your own cherished ones growing swiftly smaller in the distance, while the blue-uniformed band plays you out into open water, and the miles of bright serpentine flutter and break . . .

There's a strong, if brief, charge of emotionalism here. You notice suddenly wet eyes, and the slightly tremulous lip, and a little silence follows the hulabaloo of departure, a moment's hiatus, as passengers quietly drift away from the deck to their own quarters, thinking their own, lone thoughts. Me too . . .

HOME FOR WEEKS

My cabin, empty now, where a few minutes ago a dozen people, in space provided for one, made undergraduate efforts in a telephone booth look feeble, is a new country—my home for many weeks—to be explored. Rewarding, too. Excellent drawer space and lighting, lots of shelves nobly bulwarked against the heavy seas I trust we shall not encounter, (I like a nice shore line between myself and spectacular water), and five mirrors. Which, under the circumstances, I consider a pity.

FLOWERS BEAUTIFUL

A card on the dresser informs me that my steward's name is Woodbine, (I must ask him if and where he 'twineth'), and another tells me I dine at table number 57 at 7 p.m., soon now. My flowers are beautiful—yellow roses, white orchids, carnations and snapdragon . . . (I was wrong, this is what the mirrors are for!) and I've bon voyage gifts, cards, and telegrams to open and wistfully moon over.

I find I am tired, excited, thrilled and sad all at once, and my impression of the huge dining-room is that of a sea of strange faces and a steady surf-undertone of mass conversation.

FATHERLY WAITER

The dinner is extremely good and smartly served by an interested, somewhat fatherly waiter who gives you the feeling that he has been specially hoping to have you at his table, and will see that you are well and truly fed, or else.

Afterwards, I prowl the ship. I mark for future reference the library, a handsomely panelled room with what seems an extensive and intelligent choice of reading matter; the swimming pool for my deck; the bar (of course); and the laundry, handily across from my cabin and already in use.

STRANGE PLUMBING

And the nearest bath, where I see at once that I shall presently have my usual war with strange and ever refractory plumbing . . . five knobs, in different colors and marked in small print, (I never have taken a shower in my glasses, but I can, I suppose). Hot, Cold, Salt, Fresh, Shower and Tub . . . with a small wall-basin set above, like a stoup for holy water, and an aluminum jug, presumably in case one gets browned off with the whole thing.

NOSTALGIC SIGHT

A turn around the promenade deck for a last breath of fresh air—the lights of Victoria showing nostalgically away to starboard — some passing conversation and goodnights with other passengers of the same intent, and abruptly I have had it . . .

Poem for the end of a day:

"And so to bunk,
Sunk."

'Incredible' Fish Tales Prove True

Remarkable things happen at Rotorua—New Zealand's famed thermal region in North Island.

For instance, a tagged rainbow trout caught at Lake Roitoiti last November showed a phenomenal rate of growth.

The fish had been released as a fingerling, eight inches long and weighing four ounces.

When taken from the lake 19 months later, the fish was 23 inches long and weighed six pounds.

This is one of the stories that help lure sports fishermen from all over the world to the haunts of the big New Zealand rainbow and brown trout.

The best thing about these New Zealand fish stories—they're true.

Where but at Rotorua can an angler take a trout in clear, cool waters and cook it on the spot in the superheated steam of a nearby geyser or hot spring.

Now's Time to See It

Arizona Desert Mass of Blooms

It's a good bloom year in the deserts around the resort oasis of Phoenix and that means an especially colorful show for tourists who want to enjoy a leisurely sojourn during what many vacationists consider the nicest months of all.

After holding off even longer than usual, the seasonal winter rains finally wet the deserts for a few days in February, insuring the needed moisture for cacti and wildflowers to do their blooming best. March came in like a well-warmed lamb—and that's the combination needed to touch off the kaliedoscopic desert floral show.

FULL BLOSSOM

Plum trees are in full blossom, orange and grapefruit trees have burst into bloom, and the date palms have the light golden clusters of shoots that are the harbingers of another crop of sweet, thumb-sized dates.

Just now, the southern Arizona desert parade of flowers is at its height with hedgehog, barrel, prickly pear, cholla, yuccas, ocotillos and other cacti and succulents adding such varied hues as red, purple, magenta, violet, scarlet, cream, and yellow to the scenery. The displays will continue into May and early June with a gradual tapering off that's replaced by the summer species of garden plants gracing Phoenix area homes and parks.

BLOOMING CACTI

For blooming cacti and succulents of all kinds including many from arid sections all over the world—the best bets are the Desert Botanical Garden in Papago Park on the Phoenix east side, and the Southwestern Arboretum some 60 miles east near the copper smelting town of Superior.

For a combination of cacti and wildflower blooms the areas around Superstition Mountain, east of Phoenix, and Cavecreek, north of Phoenix, are alive with possibilities. Both areas also toss in some fine extras such as hunting for old gold mines, hiking and enjoying water recreation that includes lake fishing and boating.

According to a survey of American Indians sponsored by the Canadian Cancer Society the mortality rate from cancer among Indians is only about half as great as with whites.

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Depart San Francisco	June 1
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